NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT.

PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

BYFICE M. W. CORNER OF NASSSU AND PULTON OF Volume XX......No. 48

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING. BROADWAY THEATRE STORDWAY-HAMLEY-ASTON

BOWERY THEATRE. BOWERY-APOSTATE-FOREST OF BONDY-DEATH OF POOR JOE-FACKETS OF BLUE. BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers strees -As You Like

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway-THE LAST MAY-

AMERICAN MUSEUM-Afternoon-Heads on Taile-WOOD'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway

BUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 539 Broadway-Buck LEV'S ETHIOPIAN OPERA TROUPE. New York, Sunday, February 18, 1855.

The News.

The six judges of the Superior Court have unani mously decided to grant a new trial to the proprie ter of the HERALD in the case of Fry against Ben nett, in which excessive and extraordinary damages were awarded the plaintiff for a musical critician on the management or mismanagement of the Italian opera in 1848-49.

But little of interest transpired in the United States Senate yesterday. Mr. Jones, of Tennesse offered a resolution affirming that States only have power to pass laws admitting or excluding foreign emigrants. Should this resolution be adopted would open the door for the summary ejection of the forty or fifty thousand Chinese in California The bill to extend credits for duties on importe railread iron was taken up. An amendement wa offered requiring railroad companies availing them selves of the extension of three years' credit to give good security for the payment of duties at maturity and compelling them to file an obligation to carr the mails at prices stipulated by the government This was agreed to, and after further debate the

In the House the consideration of the Ocean Mail Appropriation bill was resumed. The amendmen tive to the Collins steamers was adopted-100 to 83. The appropriation proposed at the last see sion for the ocean mail service was also adopted and the bill passed. The President's veto mes of the French Spoliation bill was received and read A brief synopsis of it may be found under the Congressional head. Mr. Bayly moved to postpone the consideration of the message till Wedne but without taking the question the House ad journed.

Both branches of the Legislature were hard at work yesterday. In the Senate, the bill providing for the appointment of commissioners for the proservation of the harbor of New York, was passed The bill providing for taking the census of the State was taken up in committee. The amendment giving the Secretary of State power to appoint marshals to take the census, instead of allowing on councils of cities, the supervisors and elerks of towns to make the appointments, as eriginally provided for in the bill, gave rise to a spirited debate, and was finally adopted by one majority. This proposal was urged on the ground of economy; but the true reason for it is to lodge a large political patronage in the hands of the Secretary of State. in the assembly, Mr. Coleman introduced a bill increasing the number of harbor masters to seventeen. Mr. Waterbury, of West chester, introduced a bill providing for the election of a Chief of Police for this city. Mr. Sturtevant offered a resolution requesting our delegation in Congress to urge either the restoration of the Mis souri Compromise or the repeal of the Fagitive Slave act. A joint resolution to take a recess 'rom February 26 to March 5, and visit New York, in accordance with the invitation of the Almshouse Governo: s. was adopted.

In another column may be found the proceeding in the Marine Court yesterday with respect to the alleged contempt of that tribunal in Thursday's Daily Times. The matter stands adjourned, but the Court seems to be of opinion that the defendants have not yet purged themselves of the offence.

Our Havana correspondence brings us the pro clamation of the Captain General in reference to the apprehended outbreak on the island, and also some interesting items of news in connection with 1. The period recently fixed for the duration o travelling passports for the interior has been cur tailed from three months to fifteen days, and several other arrests have been made. In addition to those and from private sources of information, that Senore Cintra, José Gener, Benigno Gener, José Oviedo and Francisco de la Garcia, have been thrown into prison. Senor Cintra is the first lawyer, and Senor Oviedo is one of the richest men, in Cuba, being worth at least a million of dollars. The others are also leading men. The report concerning the ar rest of the Governors of Matanzas, Puerte Principe and Trinidad, turns out to be unfounded. We learn on the other hand, that the Sonores Galisno and Mojanietta, both Oidors of the Real Audiencia have been destituted of their offices. Senor Aldams one of the wealthiest men in Havana, has been ex'led from the island.

Our Maracaibo correspondent, writing on the 19th of January, furnishes an interesting review of the state of political and commercial affairs in Venezue inauguration of General Jose Tadeo Me nagas to the Presidency for a constitutional term o four years. Owing to the deteriorating influence of the evil advices of the counsellors of his brother Gregorio Monagus, and the continual dread of Pacz revolution, great confusion existed, and sales were effected with much difficulty and at very long credit. The steamboat enterprise on the lake and adjoining rivers was being crowned with great suc

The sales of cotton yesterday amounted to about 2,000 bales, a part of which was in transitu. The higher grades were scarce and firm, while qualitie below middling continued easy to purchase, withou further change of moment in prices. Flour was in fair demand, without material change in quotations. Canadian white wheat in bond sold at \$2 30 and common Southern red at \$2 12. Corn was more active, and free sales were made, including considerable lots for export, Prices ranged chiefly from 98c. a \$1 for white and yellow. Old mess porl was easier, and sales were made at \$12.62. Coffee was about ic. per lb. higher for Rio, with more doing. Cetton freights to Liverpool indicated some

improvement. According to the official report of the City In spector, the whole number of deaths in this city du zing the past week was 550, viz.: 111 men, 92 wo men, 192 boys, 155 girls, being an increase of 65 or the mortality of the week previous. Of this increase 35 were inmates of the public institutions. There were 65 deaths of consumption, 56 of inflam mation of the lungs, 14 of congestion of the lungs 8 of bronchitis, 19 of typhus fever, 15 of drops; in the head, 14 of other dropsies, 10 of dias rhoes, 10 of dysentery, 6 of erysipelas, 12 of inflammation of the bowels, 5 of inflammation of the throat, 5 of palsy, and 6 of old age. The mortality among children increases at a rapid rate, There were 61 deaths of convulsions, 19 of croup, 13 of debility, 23 of scarlet fever, 1 of hooping cough 27 of marasmus, 4 of teething, and 6 of measles There were 10 premature births, and 32 cases of still born. The following is the classification of dis cases:—Brain and nerves, 108; generative organs 9; heart and blood vessels, 6: lungs, throat, &c. 107; old age, 6; eraptive fevers, akin, &c., 36; still. born and premature births, 42; stomach, bowels and other digestive organs, 98; uncertain seas and general fevers, 60; urinary organs, 6; unknown, 2. The nativity table gives 357 natives of the United States, 109 of Ireland, 57 of Germany, and 8 of Eng-

There was held yesterday on 'Change, pursuan to notice of a committee, consisting of Messrs. Tiles ton, Grinnell, Livingston and Morgan, one of the largest and most respectable meetings of merchants that we recollect to have seen. All the prominent merchants of the city engaged in shipping were present. A deep feeling of indignation appeared to pervade the whole assembly at the summar, nner in which Senators in Congress were incline to dispose of the vast interests imperrilled at Wash ington, on a question of courtesy, and at the exercise of the veto power on the legislation of Congres by an absent Senator. We have been accustome to regard the system of proxels in the British Ho of Lords as an anomaly in legislation, and as a great evil; but that is a trifle compared to this new pre regative of actually preventing the passage of laws by a Senator one thousand miles from the seat of government. A full report of the proceedings is given elsewhere.

Mesers. West, Arbuthnot, Price, and Rowe-act ing on behalf of the unemployed workingmen-have addressed the Board of Councilmen in a length; paper, entitled " The Workingmen's Review of the Report of the Finance Committee of the Board of Conneilmen on the Subject of the Memorial and Pe titions of the Unemployed." The document is well drawn up, and gives some hard knocks to the real estate capitalists, with a reply to the cry of the abor market being overstocked by foreign emi grants. We publish the "Review" to-day.

The Fry Verdict Quashed-The Press Free

At length we are permitted to congratulate the public on the reversal of the scandalous verdict rendered a few months ago in the case of Fry vs. Bennett. Yesterday morning, the proceedings of the court below were fully reviewed by the six Judges, who unanimously decided, on the very first point raised by the defendant, that the verdict of the jury was badand that a new trial must be granted. Very few people, we imagine, will be taken by sur prise by this intelligence. In spite of the silly attempts of our rivals to justify a decision which was in reality as injurious to themselves as to us, the public at large have all along been fully persuaded that the verdict was an unrighteous one, and that it was as wrong in principle as it was impolitic in practice to endeavor to stifle by heavy fines the voice of just critielsm. It is not necessary at this time to refer either to the improper agencies or to the obtuse intellects to which we were originally indebted for our sentence; they are of record, and will remain a striking proof of the injury which the jury system may be made to work For our part, we can afford to treat them with contempt. The thinking portion of the community long since reversed their folly; the six Judges, with a unanimity very seldom witnessed, have now reduced it to nullity, and we shall probably hear no more of the matter. The plaintiff is at liberty of course to tempt fortune still further by pouring his sorrows into the bosom of another jury, in the hopes that some private enemy of ours may be seated in the box and may take that opportunity of gratifying his spite against us. He may once more hire a licensed slanderer to insult us by the hour, and earn a few dollars by raking the gutters for filthy epithets, or lying charges to hurl against the HERALD. He may find witnesses to swear to order; we have enemies far more than enough for such a purpose. But with all these, with spiteful jurymen, unscrupulous counsel, improper witnesses, and any other allies he may choose, he will never get

another verdict against the HERALD. For since the Fry verdict, as it has been called, was rendered, a striking developement in public sentiment has taken place. The public bave been educated on one most important point, the necessity of upholding the liberty of the press. Until the jury in that case awarded ten thousand dellars damages against us for criticising an opera, no one had any idea of the danger to which newspapers were exposed in faltilling their duty as chronicles of passing events. Men had a general idea that the law of libel was a wholesome institution, retained in order to prevent journa's from destroying a man's character through malice; and rather liked it than otherwise. But when it appeared that this same law of libel could be made to work in such a way as to involve a newspaper in the necessity of indemnifying an opera manager for losses sustained through his own incompetency, simply because the editor had noticed the evidences of that incompetency as they appeared, a vast change came over the public mind.

The question at issue then took this shape Shall the newspapers cease to report and criticise theatrical performances, or shall fair re ports and criticisms be held to constitute no libel? The public could not have decided in the affirmative to the former proposition without stultifying themselves. People must and will read accounts of what is passing at theatres as well as elsewhere; and therefore newspapers must furnish them, and be protected in doing so. These ideas have been fermenting in the mind of every citizen who is liable to serve on juries ever since the Fry verdict; and long betore the judges quashed it unanimousty, we had reason to feel certain, if the case went a second time before a jury, that the verdict would be conformable to justice and right.

The chances are that we shall not have an opportunity of verifying our conviction. Whether we have or no, the case of Fry vs. Bennett is destined to be a landmark in the history of the press in America. We are violating no rule when we say that it was notorious that the plaintiff in that case was sustained by a large clique of wealthy men, comprising what are vulgarly known as the "codfish aristocracy," who lavished influence, money and intrigue in order to crush a journal which had ever been hostile to them as a class, and unfriendly to their schemes. Backed by them, Mr. Fry entered the lists against the Herald under peculiarly auspicious circumstances. Accident favored him in the choice and deposition of witnesses; he had as many as he wanted, and they swore the things he wanted. The Judge was-we mean no reproach—very favorable to the adduction of evidence. When the case came on, an outside pressure from our rivals began to be exercised on the jury. Finally there were among them men directly concerned with the plaintiff's backers, with whom the rendition of a verdict against the HERALD was a sworn point. Surely, so singular a combination of happy accidents was never witnessed before ; no plaintiff ever came into court under such bright auspices. Yet with all these advantages, the net result of the whole is that Mr. Fry takes nothing

In England and France the point was decided many years ago in the same way. In the former country where the law of libel has I least.

by his case, and the press is still free.

gone through the process so much needed for ours, no manager would be foolish enough to sue a newspaper for criticising his performances In the latter, equal freedom is asserted by the press. Under the cruelest political tyranny, when the journals of Paris have not dared even to mention the names of political men, they bave lashed the theatres with unbridled se verity, and long long ago the folly of appealing to the courts for protection against their strictures was amply proved. We hope the Fry case may establish the same doctrine for this country. The public may rely upon it that a leading journal may be trusted with power; it costs more to use it than gratified spite would repay.

FRENCH SPOLIATIONS-A VETO-The President has prepared an elaborate veto to the French Spoliation bill, which was sent to Congress yesterday. This was expected. Colonel olk vetoed it, and Mr. Pierce belongs to that school of constructionists. At all events, he desires to appear to the South as strict a constructionist as Colonel Polk. The Washington spoilsmen will now be in a bad way. They have lost Colt's patent extension and several others-the railroad land jobs hang fire-and now losing these five millions of spoliations they feel it very sensibly. Two weeks of the session, however, still remain, and a vast amount of pickings and stealings may be secured in the interval, with sharp management. Let Colonel Forney muster the lobby and go to work.

The New City Charter. What is doing at Albany with the Corporation bill for a new city charter? In comparison with nine-tenths of the measures before the Legislature, this one possesses paramount importance. To the city its passage is essential. At any moment an emergency may arise, in which the miserably restricted power of the Mayor, and the antagonism engendered between the several executive departments, may be productive of serious mischief. Only a few months ago, we were compelled to have recourse to the Board of Health-in an unconstitutional and roundabout way-to have the streets cleaned. A similar embarrassment may recur at any moment.

The bill now before the committee contains the germ, and even more than a germ of the law required. It is based at bottom on sound principle-concentration of power and responsibility. This feature alone covers a multitude of defects. The appointing and removing power vested in the Mayor, a degree of energy and efficiency will be imparted to the city government which ought to ensure a taithful observance of the laws. We have already seen how much cau be done by an able and vigorous Mayor; how much more would have been accomplished had he not been trammelled by the ridiculous restrictions of the present charter, establishing an imperium in imperio, and rendering his right to oversee the various executive departments a matter of controversy!

It is the duty of the committee, in our opinion, to report the bill on the ground of this feature alone. But there is no reason why it should not be made perfect in all particulars. There can be no one-but the small class who are swayed by personal motives of emolument -who is interested in maintaining the present system, or in preventing the city from obtaining a good government. With a little care and study, the best plan can easily be discovered by the committee, and its adoption by the Legislature can hardly be a matter of question Let the members of the former body lay themselves open to suggestions from every quarter; let them take the opinions of men who have had a practical share in carrying out the present and former charters; let them consult the press. We are not aware that any difference of opinion exists among the leading journals of New York with regard to the necessity for a change, or with regard to the character of the government to be substituted for our present one. With the exception of one or two sheets avowedly enlisted in defence of the interests of this one or that one among the present office holders, all the press of New York unless we are much mistaken would support a charter framed on a basis of undivided anthority and undivided responsibility in the Mayor, subject of course in matters of appointment to the sanction of the Aldermen.

Ensured of their support, which implies that of the public, the committee need not flinch from a thorough scheme of reform. No earthly reason can be shown, for instance, for retaining the Almshouse under its present management or the Board of Education in its present shape. Both departments would be far better managed by a single commissioner appointed by and responsible to the Mayor. Under the present system, they are like the House of Lords in England, which is only saved from coming into constant collision with the other branch of the government by the forbearance and discretion of its members. What a system for a free city! In point of executive efficiency, one single man is infinitely superior to the best board in the world. And the possibility of a recurrence of the altercations which have already impeded the city government would be entirely obviated by making both offices departments of the city executive, on the same

footing as the commissionership of streets. Another reform which might very well be included in the new bill would be the codification of the city ordinances. These have now become so numerous that even the best informed lawver is often at a loss to know what the law is; and citizens, policemen and others, who ought to be familiar with their tenor cannot possibly hope to gain even a smattering of them. Let a section be introduced into the new charter providing for the consolidation of all these various conflicting ordinances into one municipal statute, which every one can buy and read. Nothing has helped the viola lators of the laws more than the prevailing ignorance of their provisions. Nothing would operate so effectually as a check upon municipal officers as a general acquaintance with the nature of their duties.

We have no doubt but other suggestions will be made in other quarters, and all we ask is that the committee pay them due attention. Guided by the one main principle which is the basis of the bill now before them, they cannot go far wrong in matters of detail if they will give a patient hearing to the advice offered them. This is the more necessary as the city requires above all things a charter which shall be final. Even the mischief produced by the errors of past charters has not been so great as that caused by the continual changes. Let us have an act which shall last us a generation at

THE GRAND STATE COUNCIL AT SYRACUSE-A PEEP INSIDE—Exciting Speciacle.—The letter which we publish elsewhere in these columns, of Hon. Moses Eames, (a Know Nothing member of our Legislature,) describing his reception as a delegate at the Grand State Council of the Know Nothings, now in session at Syracuse, gives us an inside peep into their sanctum sanctorum, at the most interesting crisis, no doubt, of all their proceedings. When called upon to say for whom he had voted for United States Senator, we can imagine that his response of "W. H. Seward," created a sensation. After reading Mr. Eames' account, however, of the scene, the wonder is that he was not bagged like Morgan, and spirited away to Niagara Falls, and thrown over in the dark. He got out, got off, and left in the first train, otherwise, as the first martyr to their wrath, in sacrificing his life, he might have saved the country from the terrible grasp of the Know Nothings. It was another Jerry rescue; but in this case the humanity of the rescaing partics, especially Mr. Barker, is eminently praiseworthy. Tammany Hall can produce very few remi-

niscences transcending this terrible scene in our Know Nothing Grand State Council. Seriously, had not Mr. Eames escaped, his life might have been endangered from the frenzy of his brethren. But we have to say that if such are the brotherly meetings of the Know Nothings they must collapse and fall to pieces. Terrorism is not the thing. Burning in effigy and the hanting down of deserters from the camp in all the relations of private life are not the thing. In this country, in this age, and among this intelligent people, these elements of party obedience will never answer It is to be hoped that the deliberations of this Syracuse State Council will result in leading the way to the Americanizing the rules and regulations, oaths, obligations and penalties of this new American party. They have an inviting prospect before them. The masses of the people, disgusted with the rum and rowdy influences, and spoils corruptions, of both the old parties, are disposed to second this Know Nothing movement in a great and wholesome revolution of reform. Let the Know Nothings prove themselves worthy of this popular in clination, in the reformation of their harsh discipline of dreadful oaths and monstrous inquisitorial penalties. Let them try a system of attractions and persuasions, in lieu of terrorism and organized vengeance, or they cannot hold together. Let them deal with each other as with honorable men, and not as confederate counterfeiters or midnight robbers, where good

faith involves the alternative of assassination The machinery of this American party is new, and grates harshly upon the ear, like the working of a new and ponderous steam engine. But, with good engineering, after running awhile, from friction and a plentiful application of oil, it will work smoothly and without scratching. It becomes the Know Nothings, however, to remove the defects in the machine as they are discovered, to file off excrescences, and supply deficiencies as they may be discovered when the steam is on, or there msy be a rainous explosion. Of all things, let them beware of rum and rowdyism, and the fate of the late whig and democratic parties. Let them keep cool and temperate, and thus command the respect of the honest and sober classes of the people; for if they sink into rum and ruffianism they are destroyed.

Will the Know Nothings, as a national party, hold together till 1856? They can if they will. The popular sympathies of the whole country are for a political revolution, and a new order of things. But the issue will depend upon the reconstruction of the discipline of the Order. Terrorism is not the thing. Oil is wanted Apply oil.

WHIG PARTY MACHINERY OF '48 DISCLOSED-THURLOW WEED SCENE SHIFTER.-We publish to-day the speech of Mr. Dickinson (Seward man), in our State Senate, on Friday last explanatory of a very important incident in the Taylor campaign of 1848. Our readers will remember, that in August of that year quite a latitudes, especially at Albeny, by the receipt of information from Charleston that Gen. Tay lor had accepted a South Carolina nomination, with Gen. William O. Butler as their candidate for Vice President, Butler being the nominee for this office on the democratic ticket. Old Zack was "a whig, but not an ultra whig," and so he accepted the nominations of all parties, which added immensely to the interest of the campaign, and unquestionably very much in-

creased his vote in the election. But the Seward wire-workers at Albany were perplexed at the acceptance of this Charleston nomination, repudiating, as it did, the regular whig nominee for Vice President, Mr. Fillmore. on account of his free soil antecedents of that day. It looked as if Old Zack, too, did not care much for such company. Hence the importance of the Albany meeting, so successfully got up and managed by Thurlow Weed The whole thing was out out and cooked by Weed, even to the speakers and the sentiments they were to utter. He boasts of it. He delights in exhibiting his skill as a party thimble rigger, and showing what a mere flock of sheep the whig party has been in following the lead of their cunning old bell-wethers. who have appropriated all the glory and pocketed all the spoils. Even in 1848, however, as it appears, Mr. Fillmore smelt a rat, and suspected there was treachery in the smooth-faced professions of the Albany scene shifter. Subsequent events have, perhaps, satisfied the ex-President that his apprehensions were correct. He had no managing consultation with Weed, we dare say, upon the late reelection of Seward to the Senate.

All political parties are managed by secret caucuses and pipe-layers; mass meetings and processions, hard cider, stump speeches, and song singing, are but the tubs thrown out to amuse the whale. With these revelations from Thurlow Weed, and from what we know of the rum and rowdy machinery of both the old defunct parties, how utterly preposterous it is to talk of the secret despotism of the Know No-things! Read Weed's letter.

DOCTRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION-THE POPE'S APOSTOLICAL LETTER .- We publish elsewhere, a document of considerable interest to the religious world -the letters apostolic of Pope Pius IX., concerning the dogmatic definition of the immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary. The effect of this instrument is as we have already explained to our readers, to render an indispensable article of the Roman Catholic faith the doctrine that the Virgin Mary was conceived immaculate, or without original sin. It is curious that it should be reserved for our day to witness the solemn incorporation into the Romish creed, of a belief which, although it has hitherto had an almost general acceptation amongst its professors, has not been reckoned amongst its positive canons. And yet there are none of its articles which the members of other churches are at heart less disposed to cavil at, or to the assertion of which Catholicism itself has owed more of its success It was to the influence which it exercised on the ideas and habits of the early Christians that we are indebted for the elevation of the female sex to their proper position in the social scale, and which the loose notions of morality inculcated by the pagan mythologies had prevented them until then from attaining. As a measure of ecclesiastical policy, this step of the Roman Pontiff is opportunely conceived. At a time when religious indifference is fast seizing hold of men's minds, and when the poetical is rapidly becoming absorbed into the material we cannot but acknowledge the sagacity which under the form of a solemn tribute to the vir tnes of the Mother of God, takes the opportunity of reminding the world, how much civilization is indebted to this particular doctrine of the Romish church.

SENATORS BEFORE THE FOOTLIGHTS .- It is singular fact that the up town opera house has never been full but once, and that great audience was drawn by a new star—the Hon. Thos Hart Benton, of Missouri-who delivered a lecture on the Pacific Railroad. To-morrow. Niblo's theatre, the central opera house, will probably be filled by another great crowd, as the Hon. Sam Houston will deliver a lecture on the manners and customs of the American Indians, part of which he is, and all of which he has seen. We predict for "Sam" a great house, and for the managers of the lecture on this occasion a more substantial pecuniary return than usually falls to the lot of such worthy persons

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Latest from the State Capital. SUS BILL-HARBOR ENCROACHMENTS-THE RIGHT PAIACE MARKET -ANTI-SLAVERY MESO-LATIONS-THE MILITIA BILL-THE OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH BY JEWS AND GENTILES—AD-DITIONAL HARBOR MASTERS ELECTION OF CHIEF OF POLICE-FRED. DOUGLASS' LECTURE, ETC. ALBANY, Feb. 17, 1855.

The discussion on the Census bill was resumed, the question being on the amendment pending, giving the power of appointing marshals in each election district to the Secretary of State, instead of to certain local officers, as reported in the bill. The object of making the alters purely political, and the party in power, if they can give a triffing patronage to its friends, are in duty bound to do it. Hence the justice in allowing Mr. Secre tary Leavenworth to station officeholders in every election district at the public expense, to take espe of "Sam" at the next election. The committee adopted the substitute-eleven to ten-but there is some doubt whether seventeen votes can be obtained for the altera tion on its third reading.

The bill authorising the Governor to appoint commis-

sioners to examine New York harbor encroachments was passed in the Senate this morning.

Mr. Brooks intends to introduce a bill to incorporate

the "Crystal Palace Market Association." What kind

The bill directing the ferry companies in the city of

New York to place life-preserving gates at the ferry bridges was reported against in the Senate this morning. The Committee of Commerce thinking, probably, that if people will look before they leap no lives will be lost at the ferrice.

people will look before they leap no lives will be lost at the ferries.

Mr. Stuyvesant, of the House, introduced a resolution instructing members of Congress to procure the restoration of the Missouri Compromise line, and if that cannot be done, then to endeavor to procure the repeal of the fugnitive ask. Laid over.

Mr. Waterbury offered a resolution permitting the Continens a uniform companies of the city of Albany to use the Assembly Chamber on the afternoon of the 22d instant, for the purpose of hearing an address from one of the State Secators. Some of the members thought they saw "Sam" in the resolution, and made some inquiry. Mr. Rhodes replied that he supposed it e whole Chamber would be filled by "Sam," and he desired to motify members accordingly. Mr. O'Keefe said the Chamber had been granted to the temperance men, the agricultural men, and the Fred. Douglass men, and he hoped the application now pending to admit other distinguished gentlemen would be unanimously granted, which was done.

which was done.

There is quite a feeling in relation to the new militiabili introduced by Major Cocks. Yesterday, to the House, while the Clerk was proceeding with its third reading—there having been not the loast opposition to tit—Mr Coleman suddenly rose and moved that the further reading of the bill be dispensed with as a telegraphic communication was just put in his hands from New York, desiring that the bill be delayed until a remonstrance sculd be presented. The House refused to lay the billyaside. The Clerk then read a section or so turther, when Mr. Blatchford rose and made another appeal to the House to suspend the reading of the bill.

iny the bilijastic. The Clerk then read a section or a sturther, when Mr. Blatchford rose and made another appeal to the House to suspend the reading of the bill. He was successful. This morning Mr. Coleman presented a remonstrance from General Sandford and a tew other officers. The objections they urge are very weak, and if others more substantial are not presented, the bill will undoubtedly pass. The bill contains a provision which compels the Major General and the Brigadier to instruct their commands in field exercise. To this those gentlemen object; and it is thought that their opposition to the bill has "this extent, no more."

The Hon. Nicholas Seagrist, who represents the law and orderly citizens of Bloomingdale and vienity with marked ability in the House of Assembly—having the greatest respect for the morals not only of his own direct constituents, but also the people of the entirecounty of New York—has determined to introduce a bill into the House to accomplish his benevolent purposes. The title of his bill reads thus: "An act for the better observance of the Christian, Jewish, and other Sabbath days." The preamble is as follows:—

Whereas it has been ascertained, beyond all manner of doubt, that the present statutes of this State do not provide sufficiently strong peralties to compel the rich and the upper classes of society to keep the Sabbath day holy, or to keep inviolate that commandment of the great Law Giver, which saith, "In it thou shalt do nomanner of work; thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man servant, nor thy maid servant, neither the stranger, nor the cattle that is within thy gates." And whereas the above law is violated with impunity by all that class of persons who keep horses and carriages, and men and women servants as helps; and whereas, there is a class of very weatthy and honest citizens, known as Jews, not persons and by various other persons, by printing for publication, reading and circulating on the second day of the week, called Sunday, and whereas, there is a class of

in the course of a few days. It is remarked that this measure has been introduced in consequence of a recent decision relative to the collection of debts due Sunday newspapers.

Mr. Coleman introduced a bill increasing the number of New York harbor masters. It is proposed to increase the number to seventeen—fifteen for New York and two for Brocklyn—to hold for two years. This increase is well for two reasons, to make six more places for the hundred and fifty applicants, and to render the duties much easier than at present.

Mr. Waterbury introduced a bill to provide for the election of Chief of Police of the city of New York.

The House have agreed to visit the city of New York, upon the invitation of the 1en Governors, on the 27th instal. The scenate has not yet assigned any day, but that body will, mail probability, agree upon the day named by the House. The Governors may, therefore, prepare for showing the said gentiemen the various institutions under their charge.

The Assembly Chamber was filled to overflowing, last evening, with an audience assembled to listen to Fred. Douglass, the colored orator. The Speaker aunounced his subject to be the "Rights of Man," and in the course of his remarks took an extensive range, including the rights of his own African countrymen. It was a rehearsal of the barangue frequently recited by Fred, during the last half a dozen years, containing many truths and an equal number of inaccuracies. Heing new to many of the abolition members of the Legislature, and also to a majority of the audience, he was frequently applauded, especially when he gave his account of the horrors of Eouthern slavery. All acknowledged that the speaker possessed talents superior to most negroes. He apples nearly three hours, and was quietly and respect fully listened to throughout. Very few of his colored friends were in attendance.

A convict in prison in this city, John H Phelys, under sentence of death, for the murder of his wife, clearly proved, has been three times respited from the agllows of the

making to induce a judge of the Supreme Court to grant an application for a new trial, but down to a late hour yesterday morning, the Sheriff had received no countermanding order from the Governor. Preparations were, therefore, made for the execution. The military were stationed in front of the prisun as a guard, and large numbers of persons had assembled in the streets. The gallows was sected, the usual jury summoned, the civil police, county officers, reporters of the press, and a hundred or two other persons, were in attendance to witness the execution. The Sheriff and his deputies had everything ready, the culprit was about being led from his cell, when Mr. Springstead, the Governor's messenger, came rushing through the crowd and delivered to the Sheriff a further respite from the Governor.

From Baltimore BALTIMORE, Feb. 17, 1854.

We have reports of several marine disasters from Nor-folk. Schooner Elizabeth Jane, from Norfolk, loaded with corn, is ashore off Cape Henlopen, and is supposed she will be got off with partial loss of cargo. Schooner Black Monster, from Norfolk, with corn, was picked up at sea, with loss of sails and crew frost-bitten. Cargo much damaged. Schooner Allen, from Rockland, Me. is ashore south of Cape Henry. Schooner Harriet New oss of masts and leaking. Also put in schooner Monu ment, from Gonaives, leaking-lost deck load. Sales to day of 2 000 bars Rio coffee, at 93/c, a 101/c.

which is an advance of a quarter.

New Orleans papers of Sunday, and from other points as late as due, are received.

Injuries to the Eastern Railroads by the Freshet, &c. Bosron, Feb. 17, 1855.

The railroads have suffered considerably from the freshet. There is a break in the Essex road at North Andover, of two hundred feet long and twenty feet deep ogers are conveyed round in stages. The Lowell and Lawrence road will be impassable for some days. The Boston and Maine road is badly damaged at Haverhill, a small bridge having been swept away, over which

The weather continues foggy and disagreeable.

Navigation Resumed on the Ohio River. LOUISVILLE, Feb. 17, 1855.

Navigation on the lower Ohio has been resumed, and boats are leaving for New Orleans. Mail packets hence for Cincinnati resumed their trips to-day. PITTSBURG, Feb. 17, 1865.

There is nine feet water in the channel and rapidly rising. Navigation will be resumed on Monday.

The Weather.

Bosron, Feb. 17.—Rais storm commenced this afternoon, fog continues thick and weather altogether, the
mort disagreeable of the searon. No news.

BUPALLO, 17.—Weather comfortably cool. Slight fal of snow.

DETROIT, 17 —Weather mild and cloudy. Thawed con

CLEVELAND, 17.—Weather mild and clear. Snow nearly gone.
SANDUSKY, 17.—Clear and ch lly. 30 degrees above.

Markets.

New ORLEANS, Feb. 16, 1855.

Our cotton market is rather easier, but quotations are unaltered. The sales to-day were 4,500 bales; and for the week they foot up 25,000 bales. The stock on hand is 179,000 bales, and the receipts thus far at this por are 21,000 bales in excess of last year. Sugar has advanced &c.; fair is selling at 3%c. a 4c. Ohio flour is quoted at \$10 a \$10 12%. The sales of Rio coffee during the week amounted to 17,000 bags, at 7%c. a 8%c.

AFFAIRS AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL. EXTENSION OF CREDIT ON RAILROAD IRON

Passage of Mail Steamer Appropriation

Bill in the House.

VETO OF THE FRENCH SPOLIATION BILL

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO MESSAGE

State Rights and Emigration Laws dic.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS,

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 1855.

Mr. Shirins, (dem.) of Ill, presented the instruction se had received from the Illinois Legislature to oppos the extension of patents to McCorm respirg machines. Mr. CLAYTON, (whig) of Del., presented a petition from

the citizens of Philadeiphia for a scommodations for th United States courts and post office in that city. Mr. Brodhead, (dem.) of Pa., presented a petition from the citizens of Philadelphia designating the locality

for the above courts and post offices. PROTECTION FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

Mr. Touchy, (dem.) of Conn., from the Judiciary Com

mittee, introduced a bill to protect officers and other acting under authority of the United States.

IMPROVEMENT OF LAKE HARIOUS. MPROVEMENT OF LAKE HARBORS.

Mr. STUART, (dem.) of Mich., opposed the bill makin appropriations for improvements of the harbors in to Northern lakes.

Mr. HAMLIN, (dem.) of Me., from the Committee or

chase others.

SOLDIERS' PENSIONS.

Mr. JONEE, (dem.) of lows, reported a bill allowing officers and roldiers of the revolution whose pension are less than one hundred dollars, to have that amoun

are less than one hundred dollars, to have that amoun hereafter.

Mr. Hamin wished the bill to be laid over to Monday in order to provide by amendment similarly for the widows of the decessed officers and soldiers.

Mr. Sunner, (free soil) of Mass., presented a memoria from citizens of Worcester, Massachusetta, against the admission of more slave States, also, one for citizens of Philadelphia, for the repeal of the Fugitiv Slave act.

Stave act.

Tower of states to regulate emigration.

Mr. Jones, (whig) of Tenn., offered a resolution which says that the power to regulate emigration neve having been delegated to Corgress, the governments o those Estate afflicted with an influx of foreigners posses the sole power to make laws regulating their admission or exclusion.

or exclusion.

MR. Cass, (dem) of Mich., gave notice that on Monday next he should take notice of the words attribute to Losd Clarendon relative to the Transaliantic policy to pursued by the English government, with reference to affairs upon this continent.

to stairs upon this continent.

THE INVALID PRINSON HILL

WAS taken up, on motion of Mr. Gwin, (dem.) of Cal.
and postponed to Monday.

THE FACIFIC RAILROAD

was then taken up, but it was also postponed to Monday

CHILLT ON RAILROAD HOW DUTIES.

The bill extending the credit on railroad from was ther
taken up.

The bill extending the credit on railroad fron was ther taken up.

Mr. Coopen, (whig) of Pa, regretted that such a measure should be pressed at this time, and at this stage of the session. He depicted the embarrasaments under which the iron trade was suffering, and appealed to the sense to reject this bill, which he thought would occasion a forther depression is that branch of industry.

Mesers Brochead, Hamlin, Clay, Dawson, Bayard Thompson of Ky., and Rush took part in the debate of submitting an amendment to an amendment, wherely railroad companies availing themselves of the three years' credit extended by the bill, are required to give good recurrity to the Collector of the place of importation for the payment of the duties at maturity, when ever the solvency of the companies is doubted by such Collector, and further requiring such companies as a rail the mesers of the benefit of the act, to file an obligation to carry United States mails at prices stipulated by the government—we believe within the sum of \$300 per mile Agreed to—year 28, mays—and during the forther discussion of the bill as amended, the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

VETO OF THE FRENCH SPOILATION BILL-THE COLLINS STRAM SHPS, FIG.
The House proceeded to the consideration of the Ocean

Mail Steamer Appropriation bill The amendment of Mr Olds, offered on Wednesday last, was adopted—yeas 100 At this point a message was received from the Presi

dent of the United States informing the House of bis vetof the French Spoliation bill. It created some sensation
Mr. Oen, (dem.) of S. C., proposed that the messag
be read and printed, and considered on Monday, at on

o'clock.

Mr. Baylin, (dem.) of Va., suggested Tuenday next.

Mr. Haylin, (whig) of N.Y., without meaning an disrespect to the President, inasouch as time was precious, suggested that the reading of the message be dispensed with. ous cries followed-" No"-" Read"-" Read.

Poisterous cries followed—"No"—"Read"—"Read, and great confusion.

Points of order were then raised, that the bill pendinmust be disposed of before the message could be acte on. This was acquiesced in.

Another amendment was then adopted, appropriating for the ocean service this year, the bill for that purpose having tailed last seasion.

The bill was then passed by a vote of 92 against \$2.

THE PRESIDENT'S VICTO MEMAGE.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a message, while complete three fourths of an hour in reading. The President in returning the French Spoilation bill, refers this duties under the constitution. It is not incumbes on him to sign a bill as a master of COR 1 and the